

ZIKAI XU

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EDUCATION

- Columbia University** Aug 2022 -
Ph.D. candidate in Economics
- Columbia University** Aug 2020 - Dec 2021
M.A. in Economics
- University of California, Berkeley** Aug 2018 - May 2019
Berkeley Economics Semester Abroad Program
- Nankai University** Aug 2016 - June 2020
B.S. in Financial Engineering

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Columbia University** May 2021 - Sept 2021
Research Assistant for Prof. Navin Kartik
- Proofread papers in the field of observational learning, informational cascades and herding behaviors.
 - Mathematically proved some statements in associated literature.
 - Engaged in biweekly meeting with the advisor and discusses possible research ideas.
 - Developed the basic framework of a research paper in the topic of social learning, which discusses the impact of information publicity on market learning conditions.
- Master Thesis: **Observational Learning with Competitive Prices*** *Sept 2021-present*
- Provided formal proof for both sufficiency and necessity learning conditions of the traditional market learning model.
 - Derived the market learning condition with higher level of information publicity and gave the formal proof.
 - Compared the market learning conditions under different level of information publicity.
 - Imposing Monotonic Likelihood Ratio Property in both models and discussing the potential influence on results.
- University of California, Berkeley** Aug 2018 - Dec 2018
Independent Research
- Reviewed, summarized, and cleaned the employment data of the United States, as well as the production data of renewable energy industries and created a new panel data set.
 - Applied multiple econometric methods on the processed panel data set, and evaluated the potential impact from the development of renewable energy industries on labor market.
 - Interpreted and analyzed quantitative and qualitative results and expressed results and findings in the form of a research paper.
- Nankai University** Aug 2019 - May 2020
*Honor Thesis: **Econometric Analysis of Leverage Effect - Based on CEV Model***
- Reviewed and replicated the previous literature that estimates the leverage effect in financial market, mainly focusing on two feasible econometric methods, log-linearized OLS and log-differenced OLS.
 - By simulation in Python, numerically showed that log-linearized OLS is superior to log-differenced OLS in terms of Mean Squared Error, however, at the cost of higher variance.

SKILLS

- Programming:** Matlab, Python, Stata, SAS and Latex
Language: Chinese Mandarin (native) and English (fluent)